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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 6520**
Takehiko SAWABE et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2007_0588
Serial No. 10/531,382 : Group Art Unit 1621
Filed April 15, 2005 : Examiner Paul A. Zucker
MONOESTER OF MALONIC ACID AND
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME : **Mail Stop: AMENDMENT**

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated March 7, 2008 in which restriction has been required, Applicants hereby elect the invention identified as Group I i.e. claims 1-7 directed to compounds of the formula (I).

Further, election of species has been required for the variable R set forth in claim 2 and in reply, Applicants elect species 2(a) i.e. C1-C6 alkylcarbonyloxy C1-C6 alkyl.

Claims readable on the elected species are 1, 2 and 5-7.

Favorable action is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Takehiko SAWABE et al.

**THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975**

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